

25X1

K-7230

SD-100/66

17 FEBRUARY 1966

PAGE 1 OF 3

COPY 1 OF 3

25X1

25X1

Declassification Review by NGA/DoD

INFORMATIVE NOTE

1. SIGNIFICANCE:

THIS BRIEFING BOARD COMBINES BOTH RECONNAISSANCE AND COLOR MOTION PICTURE STRIKE PHOTOGRAPHY IN THE DEPICTION OF THE CON SON HIGHWAY BRIDGE OVER STREAM

25X1

2. LOCATION:

THIS HIGHWAY BRIDGE IS LOCATED AT 1942N 10541E, APPROXIMATELY EIGHT NM SOUTHWEST OF THANH HOA AND SIX NM WEST OF ROUTE 1A, THE MAJOR NORTH/SOUTH HIGHWAY ROUTE IN NORTH VIETNAM.

3. STRIKE INFORMATION:

STRIKE DATA REPORTS THAT THE CON SON AREA OF NORTH VIETNAM HAS BEEN THE OBJECT OF SEVERAL AIR STRIKES BY THE UNITED STATES.

4. DIMENSIONS - PRE-STRIKE:

THE CON SON HIGHWAY BRIDGE CONSISTS OF PROBABLY THREE CONCRETE DECK-TYPE SPANS, ORIENTED NORTHEAST/SOUTHWEST, AND APPROXIMATELY 95 X 10 FEET IN LENGTH.

5. PHOTOGRAPHIC READOUT:

SIXTEEN MM COLOR MOTION PICTURE PHOTOGRAPHY TAKEN BY AN A-4E AIRCRAFT OF SQUADRON VA-72 FROM THE USS INDEPENDENCE (CVA-62) ON 30 OCTOBER 1965 DEPICTS THE FOLLOWING: AN A-4E AIRCRAFT IN FLIGHT DIRECTLY AHEAD OF THE CAMERA AIRCRAFT PREPARING FOR A RUN ON THE HIGHWAY BRIDGE, A BULLPUP AIR-TO-SURFACE MISSILE BEING FIRED BY THE STRIKING AIRCRAFT, THE MISSILE IN ITS

These notes have been prepared for briefing purposes only and should not be used for detailed analytical work. Their use should be restricted to the particular briefing board(s) they were prepared for and must be considered valid only for the reporting period as indicated by the date of issue.

CONFIDENTIAL

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

25X1

25X1

25X1

K- 7230

NPIC/CSD-100/66
17 FEBRUARY 1966
PAGE 2 OF 3

25X1

25X1

FLIGHT, AND ITS RESULTANT IMPACT NEAR THE ROAD INTERSECTION AT THE NORTH-EAST END OF THE BRIDGE.

[REDACTED] REVEALS THE CON SON HIGHWAY BRIDGE TO HAVE SUSTAINED NO DAMAGE, AND THE ROAD TO BE SERVICEABLE. 25X1

6. ORDNANCE INFORMATION:

THE BULLPUP AIR-TO SURFACE MISSILE, USED BY BOTH THE NAVY AND THE AIR FORCE, IS WIDELY DEPLOYED ON CARRIER-BASED AIRCRAFT AND IN AIR UNITS OF THE MARINE CORPS AND AIR FORCE IN THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES AND OVERSEAS.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT WAS BEGUN ON THIS MISSILE IN 1953 AND BECAME INITIALLY OPERATIONAL ABOARD THE CARRIER LEXINGTON IN 1959.

PERTINENT PERFORMANCE AND SPECIFICATION DATA OF THE BULLPUP ASM (MODEL A) IS AS FOLLOWS:

RANGE : 3 TO 6 NAUTICAL MILES
SPEED : MACH 1.8
LENGTH : 11 FEET
DIAMETER : ABOUT 1 FOOT
LAUNCH WEIGHT: 571 POUNDS
GUIDANCE : RADIO COMMAND WITH VISUAL REFERENCE
WARDEAD : HE VARYING FROM 250 TO 1,000 POUNDS
PROPULSION : SOLID AND PACKAGED LIQUID

7. REMARKS:

THE UTILIZATION OF THE SIXTEEN MM MOTION PICTURE GUN CAMERA, COMMON DURING WORLD WAR II, IS NO LONGER PROVIDED FOR IN THE DESIGN OF PRESENT-DAY

These notes have been prepared for briefing purposes only and should not be used for detailed analytical work. Their use should be restricted to the particular briefing board(s) they were prepared for and must be considered valid only for the reporting period as indicated by the date of issue.

CONFIDENTIAL

25X1

25X1

25X1

K- 7230

NPIC/CSD-100/66
17 FEBRUARY 1966
PAGE 3 OF 3

25X1

25X1

HIGH PERFORMANCE AIRCRAFT. HOWEVER, DURING THE PAST YEAR, FLEET UNITS OFF VIETNAM HAVE EMPLOYED A JURY-RIGGED CAMERA SYSTEM WITH INCREASING SUCCESS. THE SYSTEM USES A SIXTEEN MM MILLICAN CAMERA MOUNTED IN A POD, AND SUSPENDED FROM ONE OF THE WEAPONS STATIONS OF THE TRAILING AIRCRAFT IN A TWO-PLANE ATTACK FORMATION. THE WINGMAN FOLLOWS THE FLIGHT LEADER DOWN AND TURNS ON THE CAMERA DURING THE WEAPONS RELEASE AND IMPACT PORTION OF THE LEADERS STRIKE. A RECENT MODIFICATION INCLUDES A SECOND REARWARD-LOOKING CAMERA TO RECORD THE IMPACT OF THE WEAPONS FROM THE CAMERA PLANE.

THE CAMERA OPERATES AT FORTY-EIGHT FRAMES PER SECOND (TWICE THE NORMAL SPEED) TO REDUCE THE EFFECTS OF VIBRATION. WITH A MAGAZINE CAPACITY OF THREE HUNDRED FEET, THIS PERMITS JUST OVER FOUR MINUTES OF OPERATION.

AT PRESENT, AT LEAST ONE AIRCRAFT IN EACH OF THE ATTACK SQUADRONS ABOARD THE CARRIERS OFF VIETNAM IS EQUIPPED WITH THIS CAMERA POD. SINCE JUNE THIS PROGRAM HAS PRODUCED APPROXIMATELY 10,000 FEET (200 MINUTES) OF USABLE BLACK AND WHITE AND COLOR FILM. THIS FILM IS FORWARDED FROM THE SHIP TO THE U.S. NAVAL PHOTOGRAPHIC CENTER THE SAME DAY IT IS RECOVERED AND IS AVAILABLE FOR VIEWING ELEVEN DAYS LATER.

NPIC WILL VERY SHORTLY BEGIN RECEIVING AN AUTOMATIC COPY OF ALL SUCH FILM BEING SHOT IN VIETNAM (NINETY PERCENT OF WHICH WILL BE COLOR).

These notes have been prepared for briefing purposes only and should not be used for detailed analytical work. Their use should be restricted to the particular briefing board(s) they were prepared for and must be considered valid only for the reporting period as indicated by the date of issue.

CONFIDENTIAL

25X1

25X1